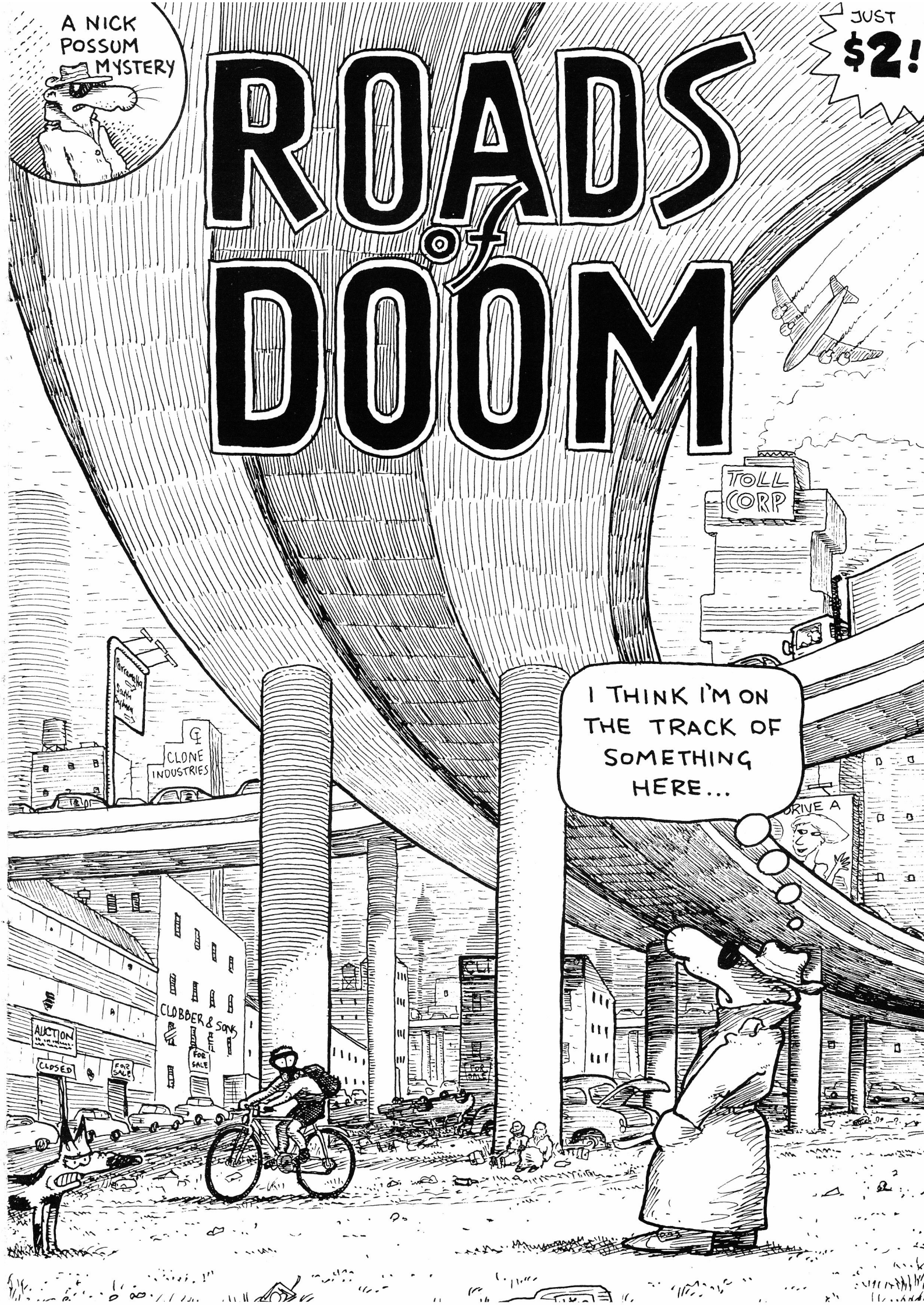
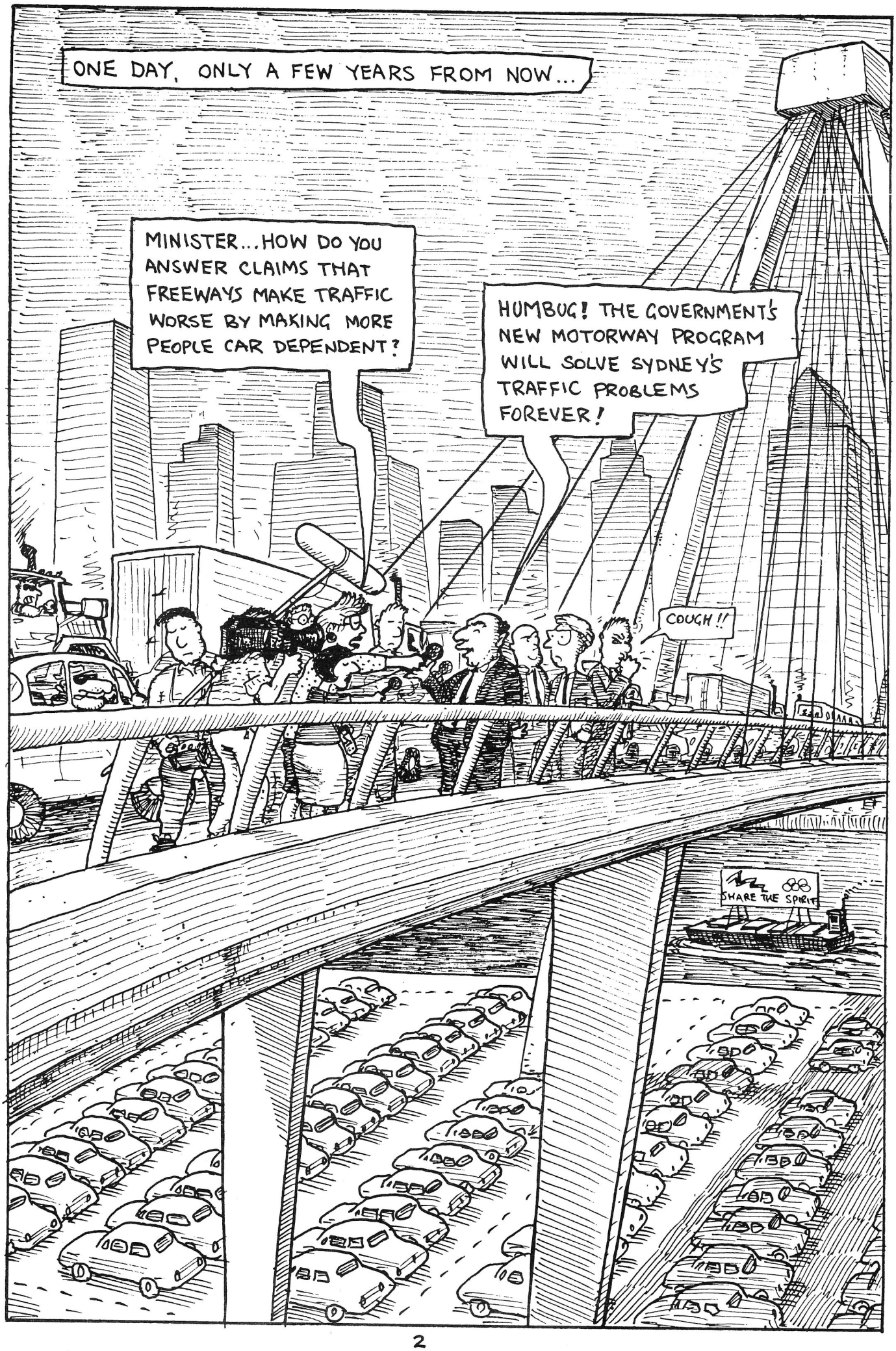
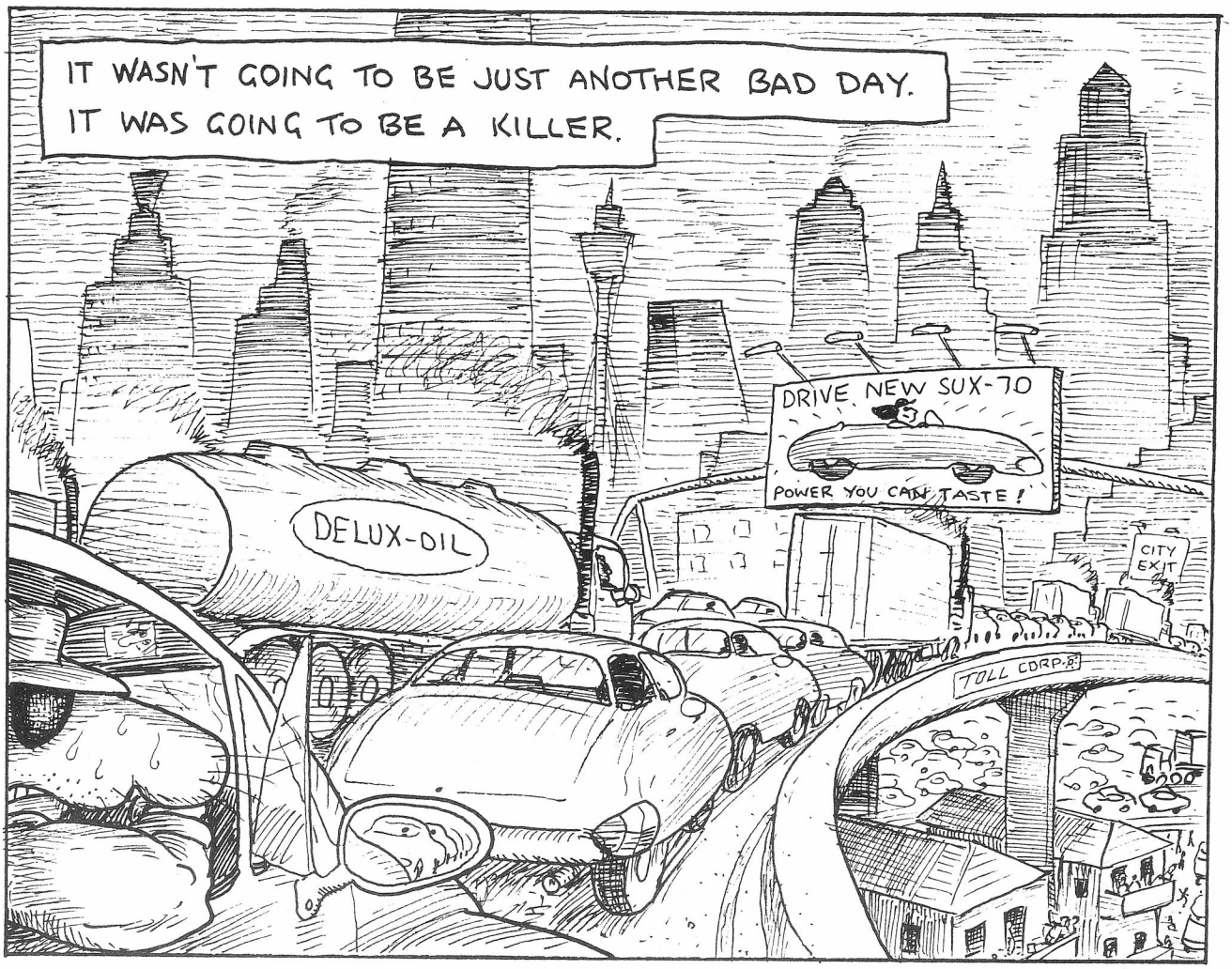
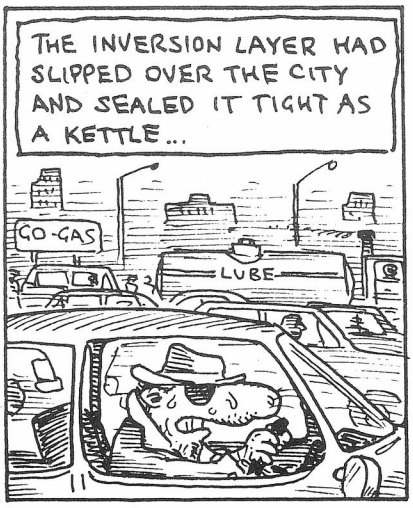
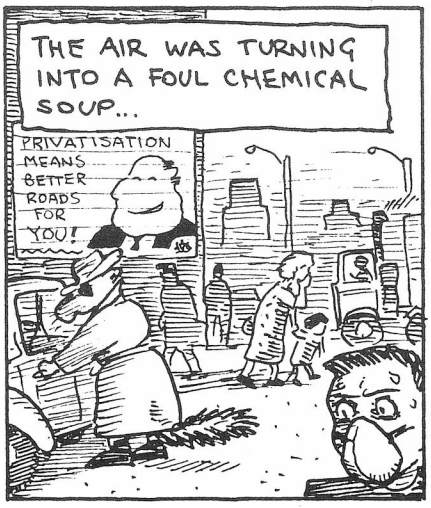
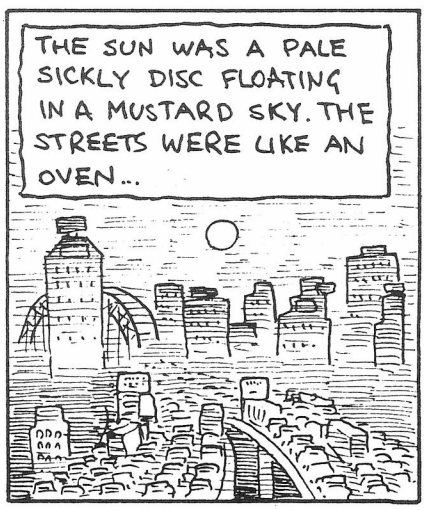

A NICK POSSUM MYSTERY
ROADS of DOOM
JUST $2!
TOLL CORP
CLONE INDUSTRIES
I THINK I'M ON THE TRACK OF SOMETHING HERE...
DRIVE A
CLOBBER & SONS
FOR SALE
AUCTION
CLOSED
FOR SALE

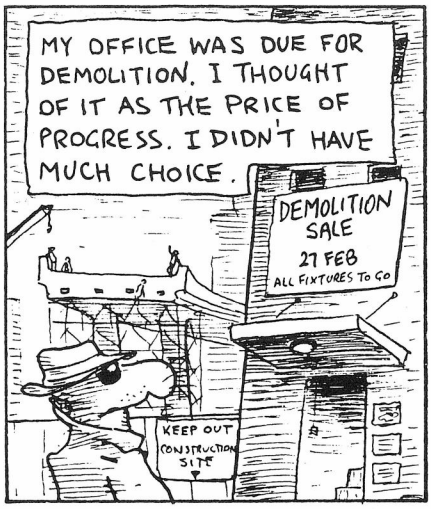

ONE DAY, ONLY A FEW YEARS FROM NOW...
MINISTER...HOW DO YOU ANSWER CLAIMS THAT FREEWAYS MAKE TRAFFIC WORSE BY MAKING MORE PEOPLE CAR DEPENDENT?
HUMBUG! THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW MOTORWAY PROGRAM WILL SOLVE SYDNEY'S TRAFFIC PROBLEMS FOREVER!
COUGH!!
SHARE THE SPIRIT


IT WASN'T GOING TO BE JUST ANOTHER BAD DAY.
IT WAS GOING TO BE A KILLER.
DRIVE NEW SUX-70
POWER YOU CAN TASTE!
DELUX-OIL
CITY EXIT
TOLL CORP.

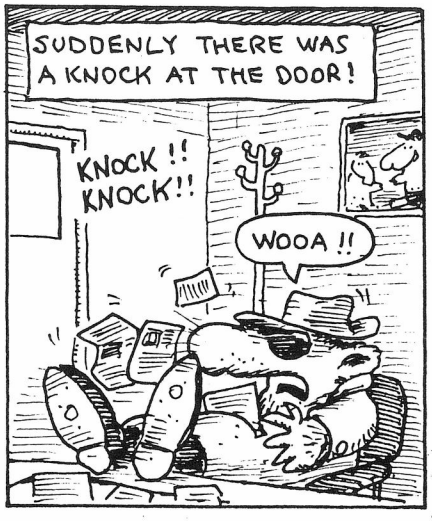

THE INVERSION LAYER HAD SLIPPED OVER THE CITY AND SEALED IT TIGHT AS A KETTLE...
GO-GAS
LUBE


THE AIR WAS TURNING INTO A FOUL CHEMICAL SOUP...
PRIVATISATION MEANS BETTER ROADS FOR YOU!

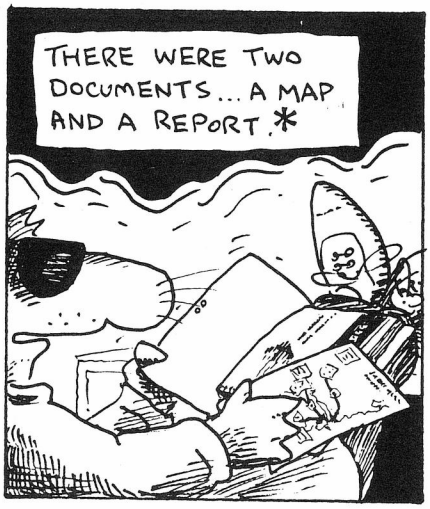

THE SUN WAS A PALE SICKLY DISC FLOATING IN A MUSTARD SKY. THE STREETS WERE LIKE AN OVEN...

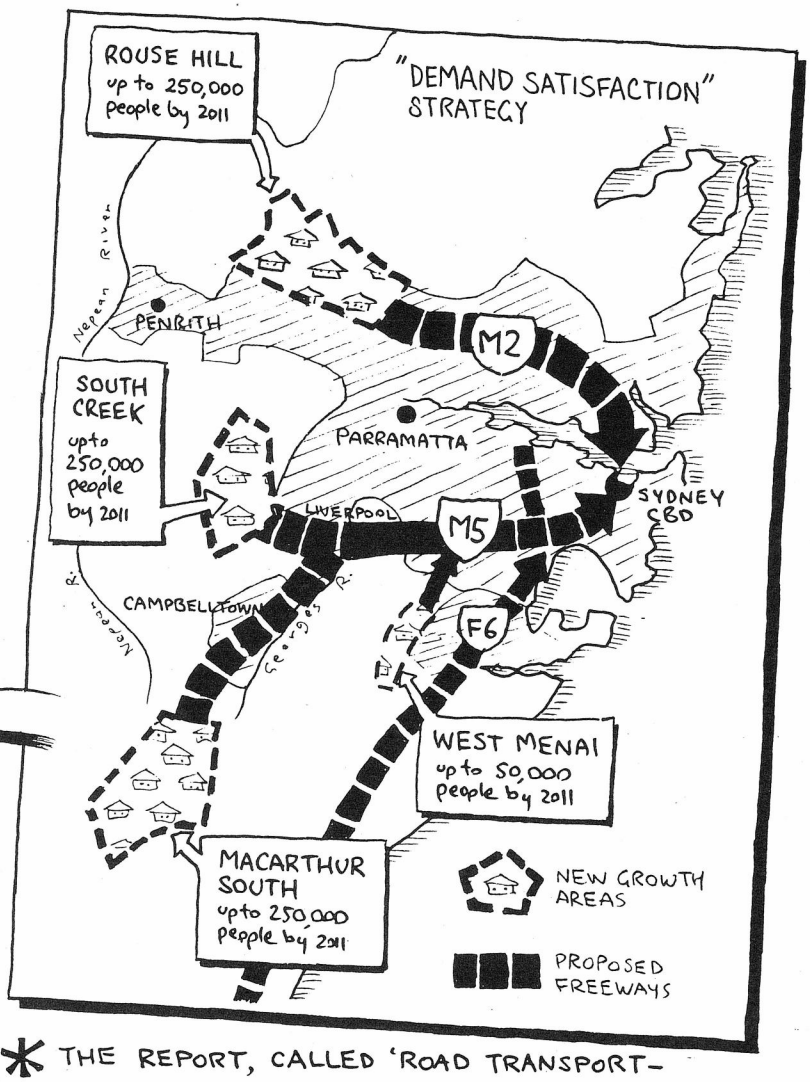

MY OFFICE WAS DUE FOR DEMOLITION. I THOUGHT OF IT AS THE PRICE OF PROGRESS. I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE.
DEMOLITION SALE
27 FEB
ALL FIXTURES TO GO
KEEP OUT
CONSTRUCTION SITE

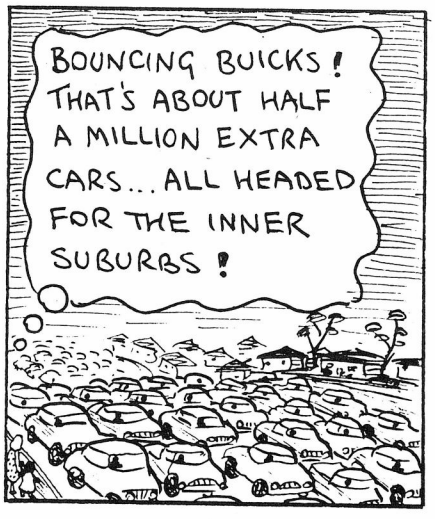
I GOT TO THE OFFICE...MADE A STRONG BLACK & INHALED THE FUMES, WHILE I LOOKED THROUGH THE MAIL...
DEAR FRIEND! NOW IS $ $ YOUR CHANCE TO GET RICH JUST WRITE TO:


SUDDENLY THERE WAS A KNOCK AT THE DOOR!
KNOCK !! KNOCK!!
WOOA !!

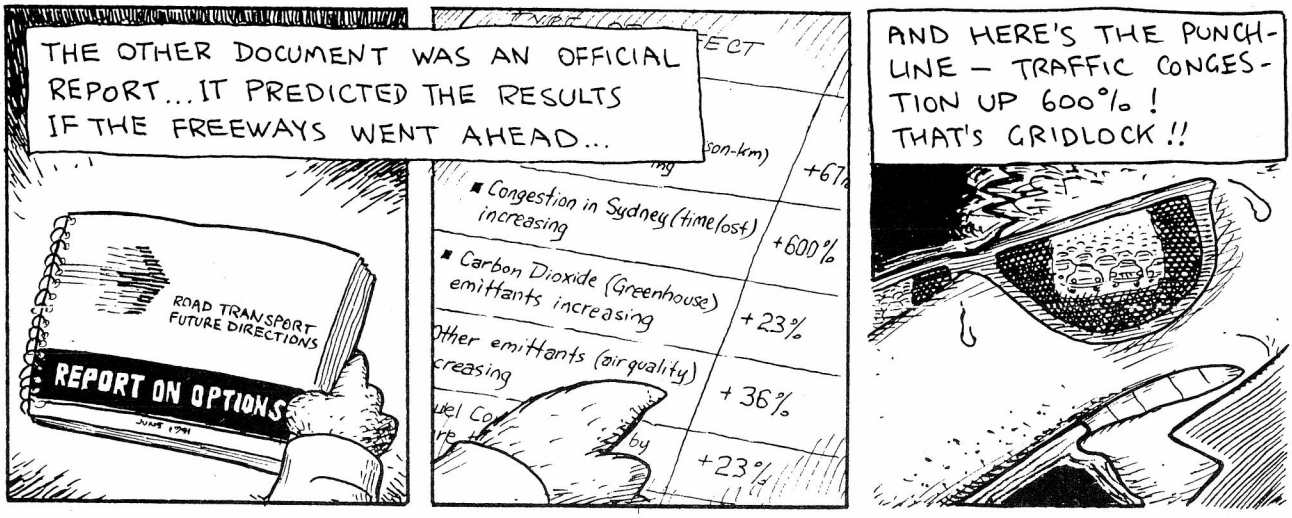
IT WAS AN ANTI-FREEWAY GROUP. THEY WANTED HELP.
FREEWAYS ARE WRECKING SYDNEY
WE WANT TO FIND OUT WHO'S BEHIND IT..
THEY'RE BREAKIN' MY HEART!
I HAD NOTHING ELSE TO DO SO I WENT ALONG...
WE THINK THIS BUSH IS WORTH SAVING
TOLLCORP
A MASSIVE 6-LANE TOLLWAY TO BE ERECTED ON THIS SITE SOON
HO-HUM
SUDDENLY THE MEMORIES CAME FLOODING BACK!
HEY I KNOW THIS PLACE!
I GREW UP HERE! AND THERE'S THE TREE I WAS BORN IN!
MOMMY!
I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO!
I'LL TAKE THE CASE
BACK AT THE OFFICE I GOT TO WORK...
I CALLED UP AN OLD BUDDY AT THE ROADS DEPARTMENT.
HEY LYNDA ... HOW YA DOIN'?
CHRIST NICK! NEVER CALL ME HERE!! VISIT ME TONIGHT.
THAT NIGHT...
BUT DON'T WE NEED MORE FREEWAYS? TRAFFIC'S BAD...
ARE YOU CRAZY?
LOOK... TRAFFIC IS KILLING THIS CITY... THE AIR IS TURNING TO POISON... THE STREETS ARE HELL!
FREEWAYS DON'T HELP. -THEY JUST PUT MORE CARS ON THE ROADS!
IN NO TIME AT ALL... ..THEY'VE GOT AN EXCUSE TO BUILD ANOTHER FREEWAY!
IT'S AN ENDLESS CYCLE!!
YOU GOT PROOF?
SURE!
IT'S TOO HOT FOR ME TO HANDLE. YOU TAKE IT!
!
CONFIDENTIAL
CABINET BRIEFING
SECURITY PASS EXEC. I MUST BE SHOWN

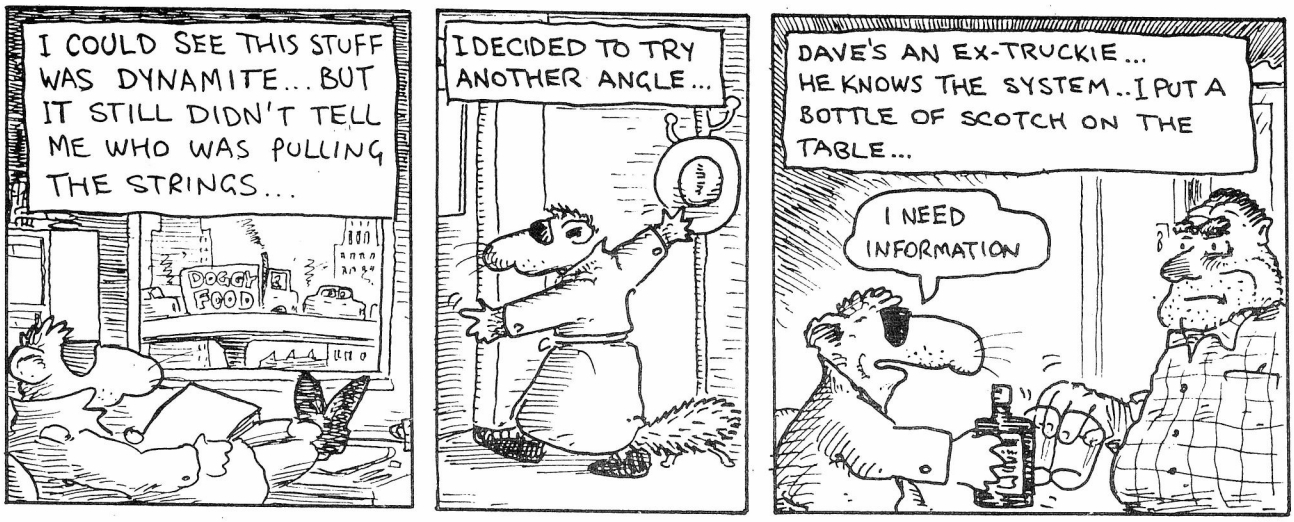






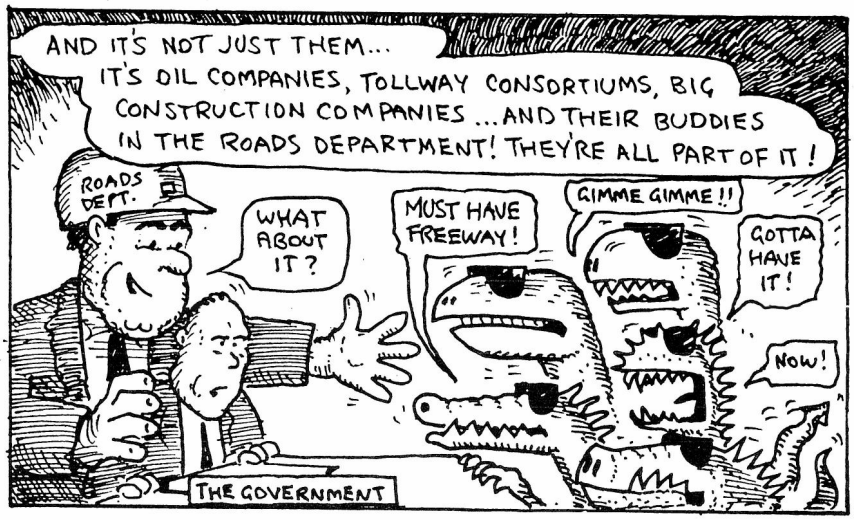
* THE REPORT, CALLED 'ROAD TRANSPORT - FUTURE DIRECTIONS', REALLY EXISTS! WHEN THE R.T.A. REALISED IT HAD NO STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE OF THE ROAD SYSTEM, IT COMMISSIONED A MAJOR STUDY BY RESPECTED CONSULTING FIRMS. THE REPORT, FINISHED IN 1990, SO EMBARRASSED THE R.T.A. THAT IT SHELVED IT FOR MANY MONTHS. FINALLY AN ACTIVIST, CARON MORRISON, "LAUNCHED" IT AT A SMOG SUMMIT IN 1992. THE REPORT CONCLUDED THAT "IF CURRENT TRENDS CONTINUE" (I.E. IF ROADS CONTINUE TO BE BUILT TO SATISFY DEMAND) THERE WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC INCREASES IN CONGESTION (600%) AND SMOG (36%). THESE FIGURES HAVE NEVER BEEN QUESTIONED.

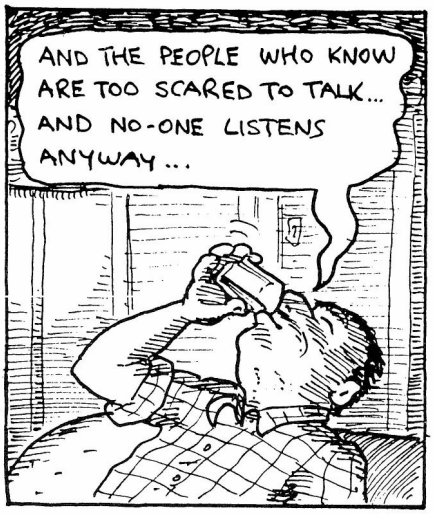

THE OTHER DOCUMENT WAS AN OFFICIAL REPORT... IT PREDICTED THE RESULTS IF THE FREEWAYS WENT AHEAD...
ROAD TRANSPORT FUTURE DIRECTIONS
REPORT ON OPTIONS
JUNE 1991
Congestion in Sydney (time lost) increasing
+600%
Carbon Dioxide (Greenhouse) emittants increasing
+23%
+36%
+23%
AND HERE'S THE PUNCH-LINE — TRAFFIC CONGES-TION UP 600%! THAT'S GRIDLOCK!!


I COULD SEE THIS STUFF WAS DYNAMITE... BUT IT STILL DIDN'T TELL ME WHO WAS PULLING THE STRINGS...
DOGGY FOOD
I DECIDED TO TRY ANOTHER ANGLE...
DAVE'S AN EX-TRUCKIE... HE KNOWS THE SYSTEM.. I PUT A BOTTLE OF SCOTCH ON THE TABLE...
I NEED INFORMATION

I'VE SEEN THE TRUCKIE'S LIFE GO DOWNHILL..
EVER SINCE THE BIG OPERATORS SACKED THEIR DRIVERS & EMPLOYED OWNER-DRIVERS...
NOW GUYS PAY A MILLION BUCKS FOR A RIG... THEN CUT EACH OTHER'S THROATS TO SURVIVE...
PISS IN COKE BOTTLES AND CHUCK THEM OUT THE WINDOW...
DROP PILLS..

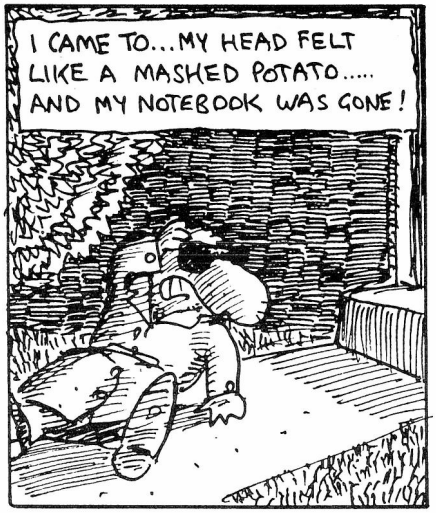
IT'S DOG EAT DOG... ONLY THE BIG COMPANIES ARE WINNING.....
OK..OK..BUT WHAT'S IT GOT TO DO WITH FREEWAYS?
EVERYTHING!! THE TRUCKING LOBBY HAVE GOT THE EAR... ...AND THE REST... OF THE POLITICIANS!
YOU DON'T WANT ANOTHER BLOCKADE?
BIG TRUCKS ARE GOTTA ROLL!


AND IT'S NOT JUST THEM...
IT'S OIL COMPANIES, TOLLWAY CONSORTIUMS, BIG CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES ...AND THEIR BUDDIES IN THE ROADS DEPARTMENT! THEY'RE ALL PART OF IT!
ROADS DEPT.
WHAT ABOUT IT?
MUST HAVE FREEWAY!
GIMME GIMME!!
GOTTA HAVE IT!
NOW!
THE GOVERNMENT


AND THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW ARE TOO SCARED TO TALK... AND NO-ONE LISTENS ANYWAY...

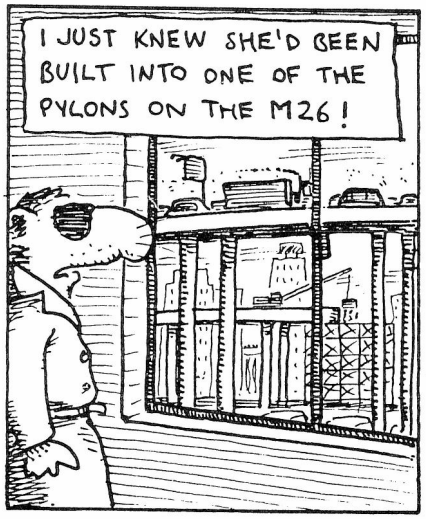
I DIDN'T NEED TO TELL HIM TO KEEP THE BOTTLE...

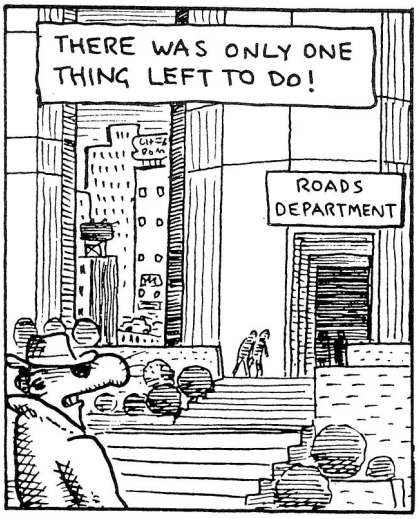
SUDDENLY EVERYTHING WENT BLACK!

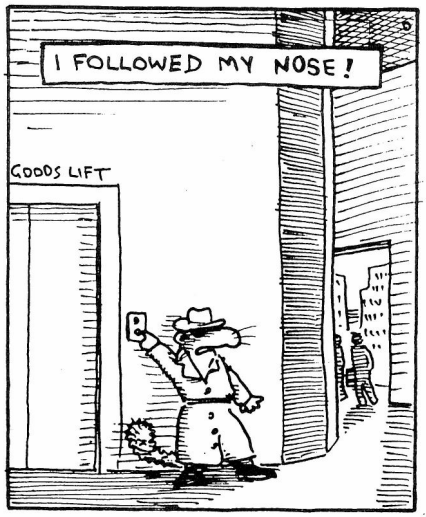

I CAME TO...MY HEAD FELT LIKE A MASHED POTATO..... AND MY NOTEBOOK WAS GONE!

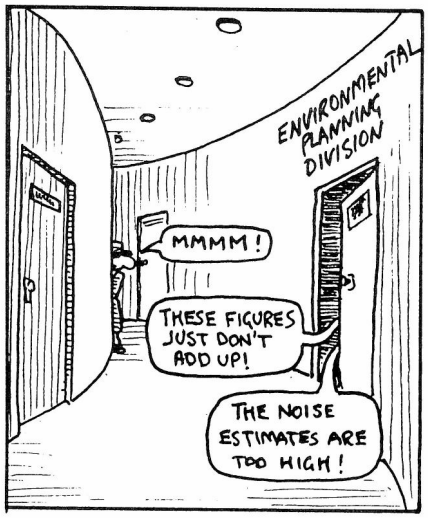
ONE LOOK INTO DAVE'S PLACE WAS ENOUGH...IT WAS PULLED TO PIECES... AND DAVE WAS GONE!

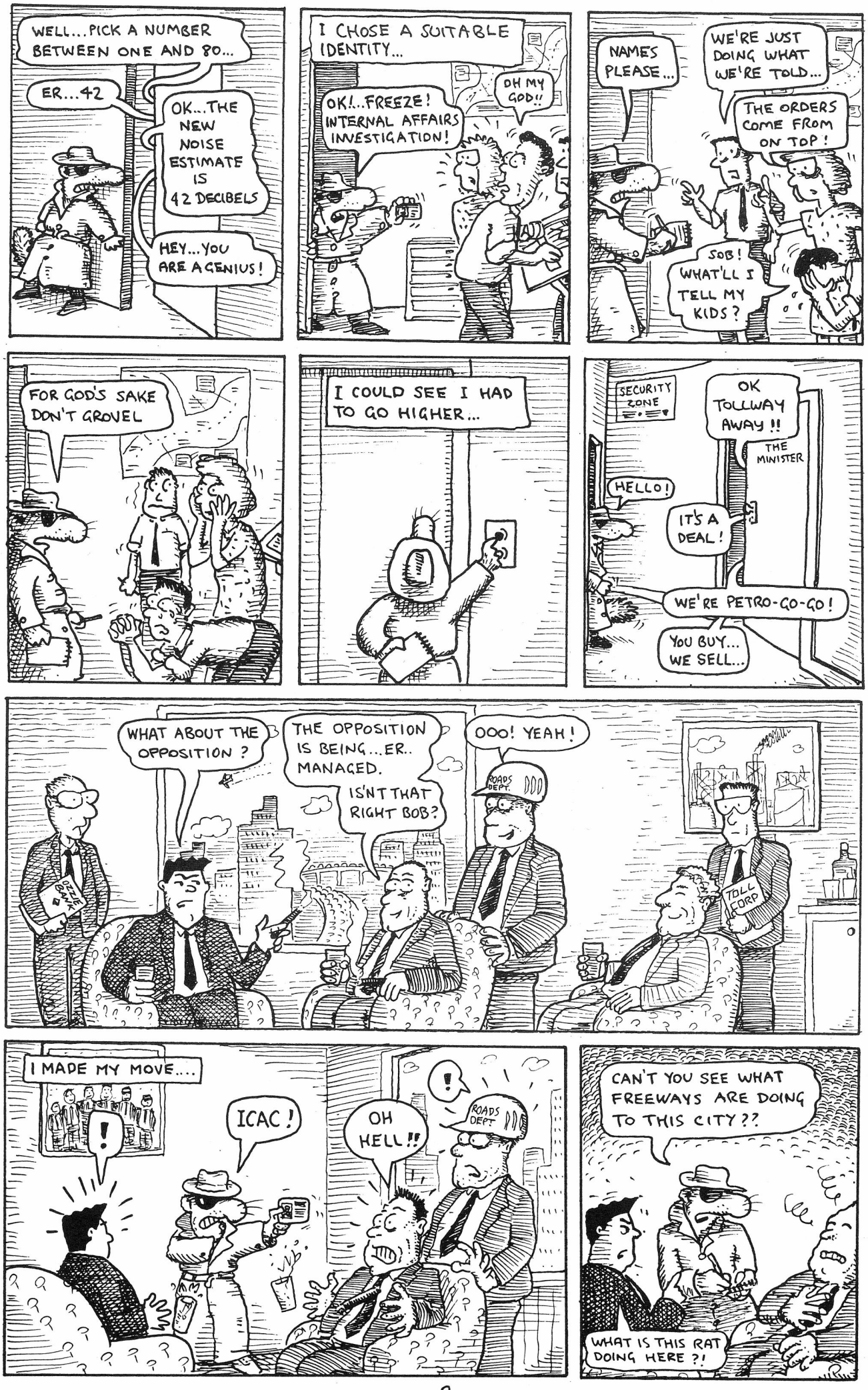
I HAD A HUNCH ... THE NEXT DAY I TRIED TO RING LYNDA FOR CONFIRMATION...
NO SUCH PERSON HAS EVER WORKED HERE...


I JUST KNEW SHE'D BEEN BUILT INTO ONE OF THE PYLONS ON THE M26!


THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO!
ROADS DEPARTMENT

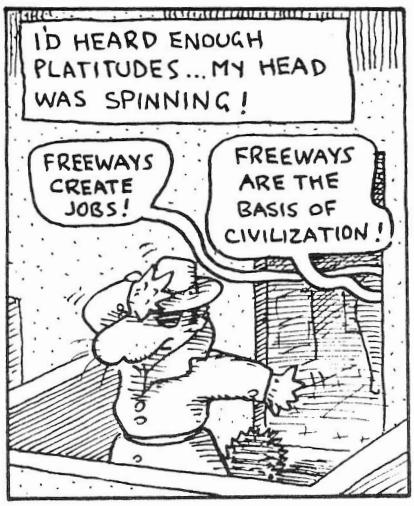

I FOLLOWED MY NOSE!
GOODS LIFT


ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING DIVISION
MMMM!
THESE FIGURES JUST DON'T ADD UP!
THE NOISE ESTIMATES ARE TOO HIGH!


WELL...PICK A NUMBER BETWEEN ONE AND 80...
ER...42
OK...THE NEW NOISE ESTIMATE IS 42 DECIBELS
HEY...YOU ARE A GENIUS!
I CHOSE A SUITABLE IDENTITY...
OH MY GOD!!
OK!...FREEZE! INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION!
NAMES PLEASE...
WE'RE JUST DOING WHAT WE'RE TOLD...
THE ORDERS COME FROM ON TOP!
SOB! WHAT'LL I TELL MY KIDS?
FOR GOD'S SAKE DON'T GROVEL
I COULD SEE I HAD TO GO HIGHER...
SECURITY ZONE
OK TOLLWAY AWAY!!
THE MINISTER
HELLO!
IT'S A DEAL!
WE'RE PETRO-GO-GO!
YOU BUY... WE SELL...
WHAT ABOUT THE OPPOSITION?
THE OPPOSITION IS BEING...ER.. MANAGED.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT BOB?
OOO! YEAH!
ROADS DEPT.
OZZE BANK
TOLL CORP
I MADE MY MOVE....
!
ICAC!
OH HELL!!
!
ROADS DEPT.
CAN'T YOU SEE WHAT FREEWAYS ARE DOING TO THIS CITY??
WHAT IS THIS RAT DOING HERE?!

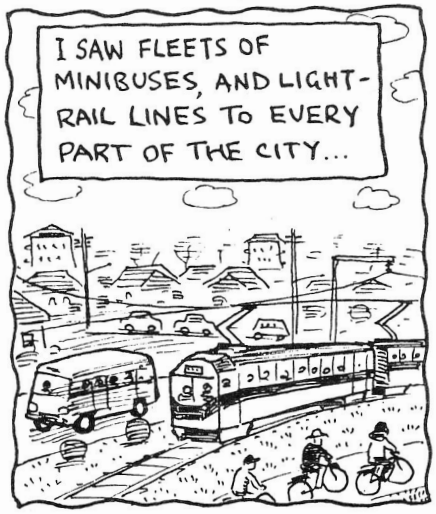
HEY LOOK! CARS NEED ROADS... IT'S NOT OUR FAULT IF PEOPLE LIKE CARS!
ROADS DEPT
ARE FREEWAYS A PROBLEM?
TOLL CORP
I FLEW HERE IN A HELICOPTER THIS MORNING AND I DIDN'T SEE A PROBLEM!

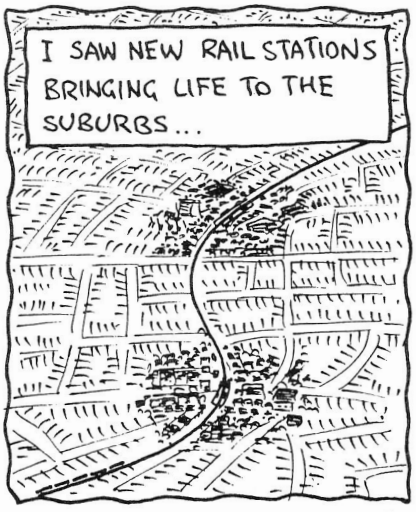
I THOUGHT I WOULD FIND EVIL. INSTEAD I FOUND MEN OF STRAW.
WE'RE JUST GIVING PEOPLE WHAT THEY WANT... ...IT'S OUR DUTY!
ROADS DEPT
YEAH... AND FREEWAYS ARE GOOD FOR THE ECONOMY!


I'D HEARD ENOUGH PLATITUDES... MY HEAD WAS SPINNING!
FREEWAYS CREATE JOBS!
FREEWAYS ARE THE BASIS OF CIVILIZATION!

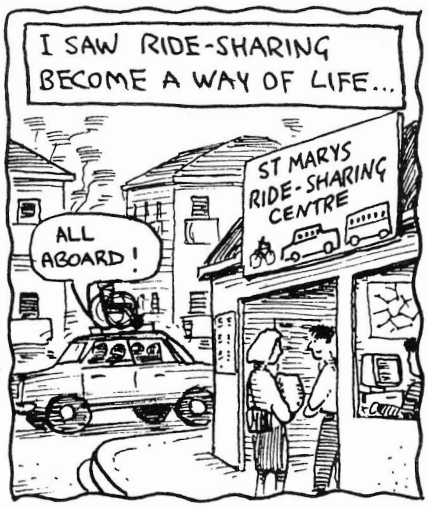
SUDDENLY I HAD A VISION!

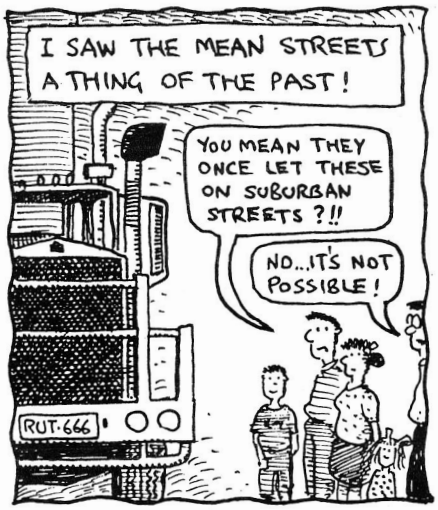
I SAW A CITY WHERE PLANNERS PUT PEOPLE FIRST...
OUR GOAL ...TRAFFIC REDUCTION!
PUBLIC TRANSPORT
URBAN VILLAGES
TRAFFIC CALMING


I SAW FLEETS OF MINIBUSES, AND LIGHT-RAIL LINES TO EVERY PART OF THE CITY...

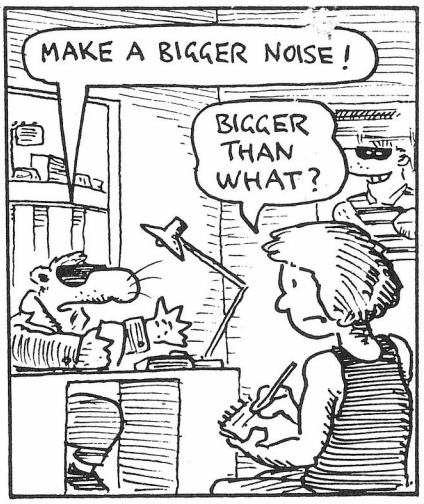

I SAW NEW RAIL STATIONS BRINGING LIFE TO THE SUBURBS...

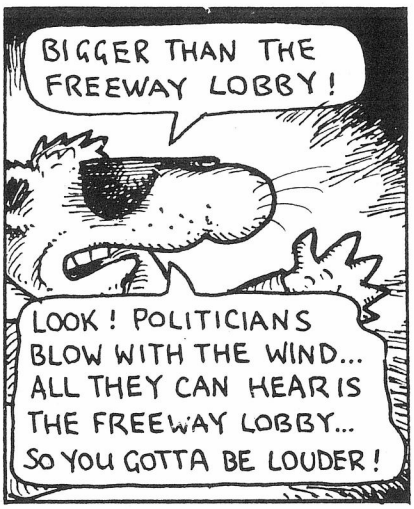
...CREATING JOBS WHERE PEOPLE LIVE... SO EVEN FEWER PEOPLE HAVE TO COMMUTE...
I JUST LOVE WALKING TO WORK!!

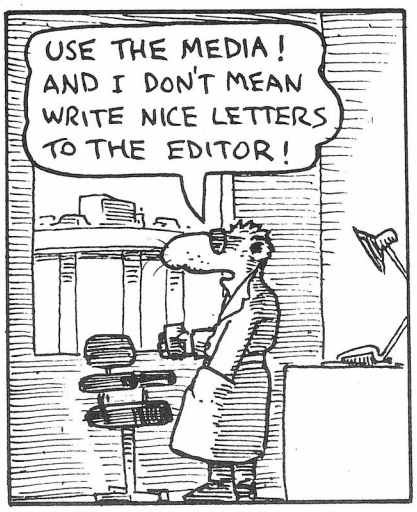

I SAW RIDE-SHARING BECOME A WAY OF LIFE...
ST MARYS RIDE-SHARING CENTRE
ALL ABOARD!

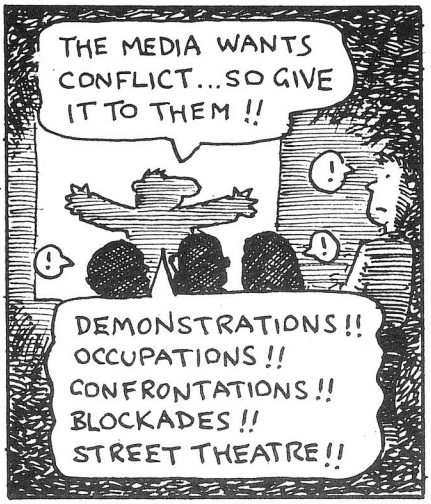

I SAW THE MEAN STREETS A THING OF THE PAST!
YOU MEAN THEY ONCE LET THESE ON SUBURBAN STREETS?!!
NO... IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
RUT·666

LATER....
I POURED A DRINK... IT TASTED BETTER THAN THE LAST..




BIGGER THAN THE FREEWAY LOBBY!
LOOK! POLITICIANS BLOW WITH THE WIND... ALL THEY CAN HEAR IS THE FREEWAY LOBBY... SO YOU GOTTA BE LOUDER!





HOLD IT THERE!

DON'T STOP READING — THIS STORY ISN'T OVER YET! SYDNEY COULD BE A LIVING HELL ... OR A NICE PLACE TO LIVE ... **IT'S UP TO YOU!**

IF YOU WANT TO HELP... HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO!

1 HELP LINKUP

- GET YOUR GROUP TO JOIN LINKUP.
- SEND A DONATION

FILL IN THE FORM BELOW.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

..... POSTCODE .....

☐ HERE IS MY DONATION TO LINKUP (Make cheque to "LINKUP: an urban public transport project Inc."

☐ PLEASE SEND ME INFO ABOUT LINKUP.

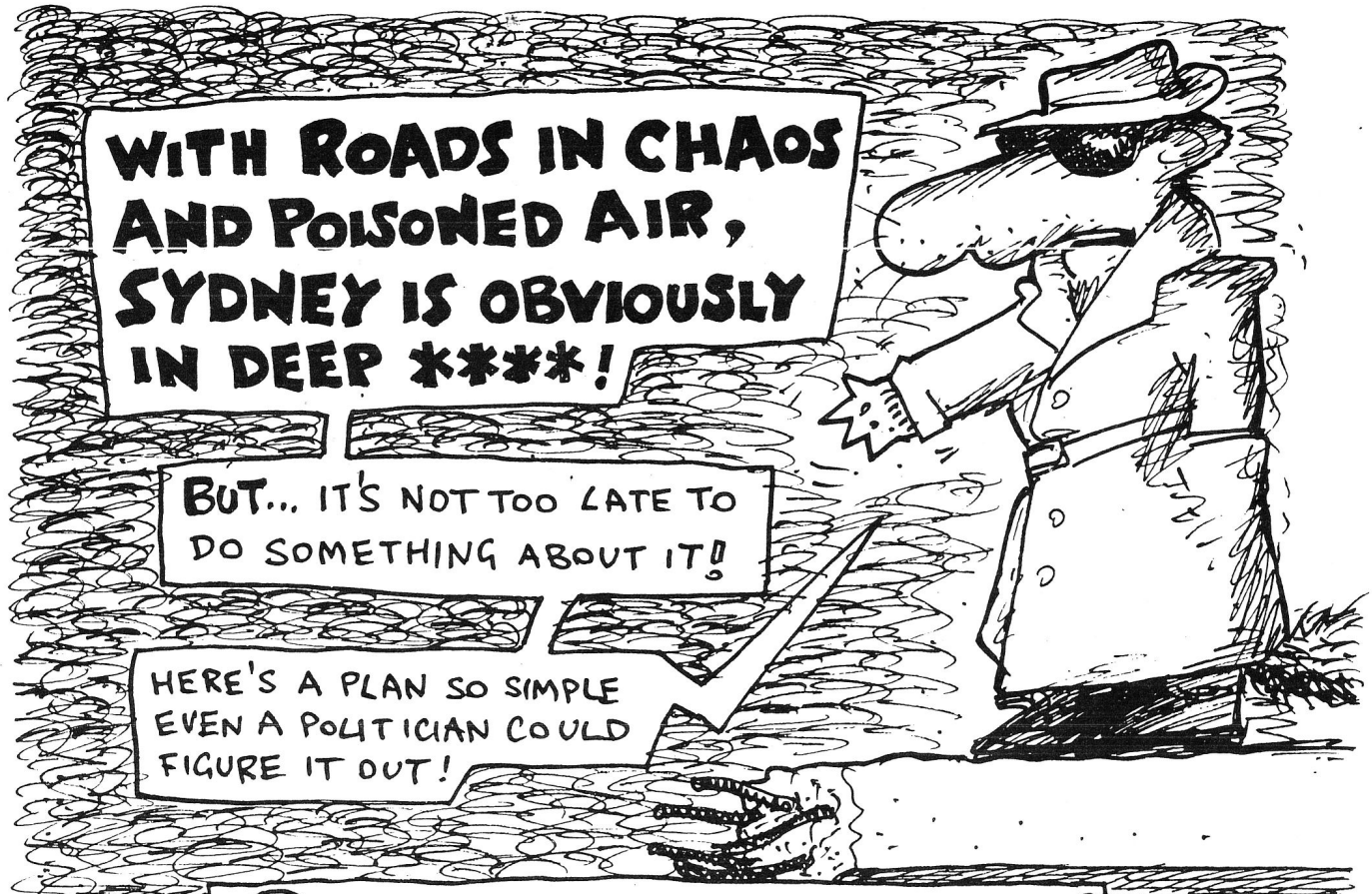
SEND TO: LINKUP PO BOX 707 DARLINGHURST 2010

2 TALK TO YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS & WORKMATES. EXPLAIN TO THEM WHY FREEWAYS HAVE GOT TO BE STOPPED.

3 WRITE TO YOUR POLITICIANS.*

- ▶ DEMAND TO KNOW WHAT SOLUTION THEY PROPOSE TO TRAFFIC AND SMOG IN SYDNEY.
- ▶ TELL THEM YOU WANT TO SEE PROPOSED FREEWAYS & TOLLWAYS REPLACED WITH RAIL SYSTEMS.

*CALL 230 2111 TO FIND OUT WHO YOUR LOCAL MEMBER IS!


WITH ROADS IN CHAOS AND POISONED AIR, SYDNEY IS OBVIOUSLY IN DEEP ****!
BUT... IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!
HERE'S A PLAN SO SIMPLE EVEN A POLITICIAN COULD FIGURE IT OUT!

1. STOP BUILDING FREEWAYS & TOLLWAYS.

2. DISMANTLE THE RTA. PUT URBAN TRANSPORT PLANNING & BUDGETS IN THE HANDS OF A SPECIAL 'URBAN TRANSPORT COMMISSION' CHARGED WITH CREATING A BALANCED TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR SYDNEY, AND A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.

3. CHANNEL COMMONWEALTH ROAD $$ INTO PUBLIC TRANSPORT EXPANSION.

4. GIVE PUBLIC TRANSPORT A GUARANTEED SOURCE OF INCOME, LIKE THE 3x3 FUEL LEVY.

NOW IS THAT SO HARD TO DO? I THINK NOT!

LINKUP IS A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY GROUPS WORKING TO MAKE SYDNEY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE.

MEMBERS INCLUDE:

- ACTION FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT,
- ST GEORGE ASSOC. FOR DISABLED,
- PUBLIC TRANSPORT UNION,
- TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE,
- COMBINED PENSIONERS & SUPERANNUANTS ASSOC.
- WOLLI CREEK PRESERVATION SOCIETY,
- CTAG,
- CUTS.

THIS COMIC IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY LINKUP. FOR MORE COPIES WRITE TO PO BOX 707 DARLINGHURST 2010 (ENCLOSE CHEQUE) PLUS $2 POSTAGE

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Believe it or not!

WHEN YOU SEE HOW POWER IS ABUSED IN SOME COUNTRIES..IT MAKES YOU PROUD TO BE AN AUSTRALIAN!

IN SOME COUNTRIES MASSIVE PROJECTS ARE ALLOWED TO GO AHEAD EVEN AFTER OFFICIAL INQUIRIES HAVE FOUND THEM TO BE UNJUSTIFIED OR MISCONCEIVED!

AFTER 6 MONTHS EXPERT EVIDENCE... I CONCLUDE THIS FREEWAY IS NOT JUSTIFIED ON SOCIAL, ECONOMIC OR ENVIRONMENTAL GROUNDS!
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT! GET ME THE PREMIER, FLAK!
YESSAH!

IN SOME COUNTRIES MAJOR BANKS LEND MONEY FOR PROJECTS WHICH DAMAGE THE HEALTH OF MILLIONS AND MAKE CITIES UNLIVEABLE!

IN SOME COUNTRIES THE EGOS OF ENGINEERS ARE PANDERED TO NO MATTER WHAT THE COST TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST!

IN SOME COUNTRIES POLITICIANS ARE SO STUPID, UNINTERESTED OR CORRUPT THAT THEY ACCEPT VIRTUALLY EVERYTHING THEY ARE TOLD BY POWERFUL BUREAUCRATS!

IN SOME COUNTRIES EX-EXECUTIVES OF OIL CORPORATIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN CONTROL OF ENTIRE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEMS!

IN SOME COUNTRIES, PRIVATE TOLLWAY CONSORTIUMS WHICH MAKE BAD BUSINESS DECISIONS ARE BAILED OUT BY HUGE LOW INTEREST GOVERNMENT LOANS!

IN SOME COUNTRIES PUBLIC POLICY HAS BEEN COMPLETELY PERVERTED BY VESTED INTERESTS!

MINISTER... BUILDING MORE FREEWAYS WILL GRIDLOCK THIS CITY... IT'S ALREADY STARTED!
MMM..LOOKS BAD...LEAVE IT WITH ME AND..UH DON'T GO PUBLIC YET
HEY BOB...WE NEED $400 MILLION TOWARDS OUR NEW TOLLROAD!
NO WORRIES AL!
THANK GOD IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE!